



Quick Guide

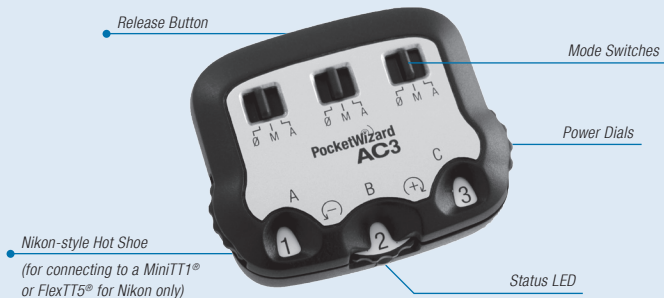
AC3 ZoneController with Control**TL**® for **Nikon**

Please read this Quick Guide thoroughly before operating. Also, review the product manuals for your camera and flash systems.

Visit www.PocketWizard.com/support to find information on the latest camera and features compatibility, Quick Guides and extended documentation. All information in this Quick Guide is subject to change.

UPDATE FIRMWARE: Be sure to update all your PocketWizard ControlTL radios to the latest firmware for proper AC3 functionality.

AC3 ZoneController



READ ME FIRST:

All equipment should be turned OFF when making connections or unwanted triggering or other erratic behavior may occur.

The first exposure after making initial connections or powering on may not be properly exposed and flash power levels may not be set as expected. The first exposure is a calibration shot. Always test at least twice.

Make sure all PocketWizard radios are set to the same PocketWizard channel.

No batteries required.

The AC3 ZoneController is powered via the hot shoe connection of a MiniTT1 or FlexTT5 radio. When used with a MiniTT1, the AC3 sleeps when the MiniTT1 sleeps.

Power Dials

Sets the flash output power.

Mode Switches

0 = OFF - flashes will not trigger. Set unused zones to 0.

M = Manual Mode - ControlTL compatible flashes will use the manual power output value set on the Power Dial. See the AC3 Manual Mode section for more information.

A = Auto Mode - ControlTL compatible flashes will use the Flash Exposure Compensation (FEC) as set on the Power Dial. ISO and aperture changes will track and be adjusted automatically. Nikon Speedlights will perform CLS / i-TTL exposures.

Release Button

Press the release button to remove the AC3 from your transmitter.

Status LED

The **green** Status LED blinks occasionally to indicate normal operation.



To use your AC3 ZoneController:

AC3 ZoneController with Remote Speedlights

1. Slide the AC3 onto your on-camera MiniTT1 or FlexTT5. Power on the transmitter, then the camera.
2. Set up remote Speedlights on FlexTT5 radios normally. Power on the flash, then the FlexTT5.
 - a. Set all Speedlights on remote FlexTT5 radios to normal CLS / i-TTL Mode. Do not use Manual or MASTER / SLAVE on your remote Speedlights. The AC3 will use CLS / i-TTL commands to control manual power levels when the AC3 zone is set to M.



- b. Use the FlexTT5 Zone Switch to assign Zone A, B, or C to the Speedlight.



3. On the AC3, set the Mode Switches to M or A for the zones in use.

Adjust flash output power with the Power Dials:

- + = Black numbers on a white background increase flash output by the stops shown.
- = White numbers on a black background decrease flash output by the stops shown.

4. Take pictures normally.

The AC3 ZoneController enhances the ControlTL capabilities of your MiniTT1 and FlexTT5 radios by allowing you to control the flash output power remotely in either Auto / i-TTL or Manual.

AC3 Manual Mode: the Power Dial sets the remote Speedlight power output as shown in the table on the right. ➡

AC3 Auto Mode: the Power Dial sets the Flash Exposure Compensation (FEC) relative to the i-TTL exposure for that zone.

Zones set to Manual or Auto mode can be combined with zones in other modes. Manual zones will not be calculated as part of the CLS / i-TTL exposure. Zones set to 0 (OFF) will not trigger.

FEC NOTE: Flash Exposure Compensation (FEC) can be set in many places and all values are used together in Auto Mode. FEC can be set:

- On the camera for all AC3 zones set to A (Auto)
- On the AC3 Power Dial when the zone is set to A (Auto)

If the combined FEC adjustments are more or less than your flash's capabilities, then the flash will operate at maximum or minimum output accordingly.

* The Power Dial can adjust over a 6 stop range. To achieve the lowest manual power settings on your Nikon Speedlight like 1/128, you'll need to adjust FEC down accordingly.

Manual Power Settings

AC3 Power Dial =	Nikon Speedlights Manual Power Output =
3	1/1
2.7	1/2 + 0.7
2.3	1/2 + 0.3
2	1/2
1.7	1/4 + 0.7
1.3	1/4 + 0.3
1	1/4
0.7	1/8 + 0.7
0.3	1/8 + 0.3
0	1/8
0.3	1/16 + 0.7
0.7	1/16 + 0.3
1	1/16
1.3	1/32 + 0.7
1.7	1/32 + 0.3
2	1/32
2.3	1/64 + 0.7
2.7	1/64 + 0.3
3	1/64 *

NOTE: Wait at least 1/2 second between making changes on the AC3 and taking a picture to allow for the changes to be communicated. The Status LED on your transmitter will blink red as changes are detected on the AC3. If the radio or camera is asleep, changes may not be detected until the camera's shutter release is pressed halfway.

You can use the following PocketWizard ControlTL radios together:

- FlexTT5 radios with Nikon Speedlights
- FlexTT5 radios with AC9 AlienBees Adapters and AlienBees, White Lightning, or Zeus flashes
- Elinchrom PowerST4 radios with Elinchrom RX flashes
- PowerMC2 for Einstein

The Elinchrom, Einstein and AlienBees flash output will not be calculated as part of a CLS / i-TTL exposure.

See the AC9 AlienBees Adapter, PowerST4 and PowerMC2 Quick Guides for their manual power output tables and other information.

The AC3 ZoneController is compatible with:

- PocketWizard MiniTT1 or FlexTT5 (required)
- Nikon CLS / i-TTL
- AC9 AlienBees Adapter, PowerST4 for Elinchrom, PowerMC2 for Einstein and other ControlTL accessories
- PocketWizard Standard Channel Receivers with Quad-Triggering like the MultiMAX or flash packs with built-in PocketWizard radios (AC3 controls zone on/off only)

Temperature

Operating Temperature: Above -15° C (5° F) and below 50° C (120° F)

Storage Temperature: Above -30° C (-22° F) and below 85° C (185° F)

PocketWizard Utility



You will need the PocketWizard Utility and your ControlTL transmitter connected to a computer via the Mini-USB port in order to change the following setting. Download the Utility at www.PocketWizard.com/support

Flash Tab

Speedlight Control: Adjusts how Nikon Speedlights will respond to the AC3, or ControlTL transmitter like the MiniTT1 or FlexTT5 with no AC3.

Normal CLS / i-TTL: The Power Dials of the AC3 on a MiniTT1 or FlexTT5 will adjust Flash Exposure Compensation normally. *This is the default and recommended setting.*

No Change (trigger only): The Power Dials of the AC3 on a MiniTT1 or FlexTT5 will not adjust power output. Use this setting if another AC3 is controlling the Speedlight's manual power output, like when sharing Speedlights with another photographer and you want to use the exact same manual flash output power. CLS / i-TTL will not function with this setting as it is intended for manual flash power output control only.

For other PocketWizard Utility settings, refer to the extended documentation for the MiniTT1, FlexTT5, PowerST4 for Elinchrom, AC9 AlienBees Adapter, or other ControlTL radios or accessories.

Warranty:

This PocketWizard product is covered under a one-year limited manufacturer's warranty. For warranty details, and to register your product, please go to **www.PocketWizard.com/support** or contact your local PocketWizard Distributor. Distributor contact information can also be found at **www.PocketWizard.com**. To receive a copy of the one-year limited manufacturer's warranty on this PocketWizard product, e-mail us at **warranty@lpadesign.com** or write to us at LPA Design, Inc., 21 Gregory Drive, South Burlington, VT 05403, United States of America, Attn: Warranty.

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For more information on this product, including detailed features, specifications, etc., go to **www.PocketWizard.com**.